

HAPPY BIRTHDAY REVEREND
JESSE JACKSON

HON. STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 29, 2006

Mrs. JONES of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of a great civic leader, the Rev. Jesse Jackson.

On October 8, 2006, Rev. Jesse Jackson will celebrate his 65th Birthday. Today, we the Congressional Black Caucus, pause to recognize this great leader in the area of civil rights.

Once an aide to Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr., Jesse Jackson has been a political activist and public figure since the civil rights movement of the 1960s. Jackson, a Baptist minister, is the founder of the non-profit organization Rainbow/PUSH.

He has several times been an unofficial U.S. envoy in diplomatic missions; in 1999 he helped secure the release of three American military prisoners from Yugoslavia. He has been a candidate twice for the Presidency of the United States and while unsuccessful made a tremendous impact on American politics, opening doors for many minorities to run for elected office.

Reverend Jackson is a role model who has touched the lives of many and his legacy will live forever. It is because of you, Reverend Jackson, that we can say "I am Somebody!" In this celebration of your life may you bask in the pride, love, and admiration of your family and friends, as well as give thanks for your happiness.

IN HONOR OF NATIONAL LATINO
AIDS AWARENESS DAY

HON. LORETTA SANCHEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 29, 2006

Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the fourth annual National Latino AIDS Awareness Day which will be October 15.

This day is a call to action to all Latinos to protect their lives and the lives of those they love by getting tested and learning about HIV.

Latinos continue to be disproportionately affected by HIV, comprising over 20 percent of HIV/AIDS cases nationwide.

We all must work together to reduce the incidence of HIV/AIDS in our families, communities, cities, states, nation, and around the world.

To do this we must not let differences in language and culture be barriers to providing access to preventative measures, healthcare and support services.

In my district, the AIDS Services Foundation of Orange County is a critical resource that works to prevent the spread of HIV and improve the lives of men, women, and children affected by HIV/AIDS.

They offer invaluable services to our community by providing food, transportation, housing, emergency financial assistance, kids and family programs, counseling, education and prevention services.

In honor of National Latino AIDS Day all of us need to renew our commitment to the fight to stop the spread of HIV and AIDS.

INTRODUCTION OF THE GREAT
LAKES FISH AND WILDLIFE RESTORATION ACT

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 29, 2006

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I rise this week to praise passage of the Great Lakes Fish and Wildlife Restoration Act. With an estimated 40 million people relying on the Great Lakes basin for jobs, drinking water, and recreation, the health of this resource is paramount and should remain a priority for Congress. Our Great Lakes constitute the largest body of freshwater on the face of the earth.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to tell you about a treasured spot in the Great Lakes—the north coast of Ohio. It is a true sapphire jewel, enjoyed by large communities of birders, sport and commercial fishermen, hunters and recreational boaters. And it is vital to life for every living creature in our region.

While the value of this treasure should be obvious to all, it is undeniable that the resources it provides remain threatened. This is a region whose wildlife populations are under attack by invasive species like the Gobe, Asian Carp and Zebra Mussel and where encroaching sprawl constantly jeopardizes the region's priceless wetlands. Without addressing the social and human costs posed by these problems, we face an incalculable menace of inaction—a menace that this week, this body took a step to fight.

Mr. Speaker, the reason that I wish to praise passage of the Great Lakes Fish and Wildlife Restoration Act is not because this bill solves all the longstanding problems that our Great Lakes face, but because it serves as one step in the journey toward restoring the integrity of our lakes. The bill authorizes the Fish and Wildlife Service for grants of up to \$12 million per year and gives legal authority for the Fish and Wildlife Service to receive \$2 million per year. These funds will be used to implement recommendations of the Great Lakes Regional Collaboration that are consistent with water quality, fisheries, and wildlife agreements.

Though the House has taken a tremendous step towards restoring the Great Lakes by passing this bill, we must not rest. Instead, we must continue on with the next steps, taking up the additional priorities of the Great Lakes Regional Collaboration not addressed in this bill. Let us find the will to expand the Ottawa and Cedar Point National Wildlife Refuges. Let us preserve more wetlands for the migrating birds that pass through the Great Lakes. Let us stop the flow of invasive species in the ballast water of transport ships. Let us celebrate victory for the crown jewel of our refuge system by fully funding the grant programs that we have just authorized.

Mr. Speaker, we are the only species with the capability of precipitating the wholesale extermination of other species; but, through compassion and conviction, we are also capable of protecting the things we treasure. We are unique in our ability to affect the fate of the planet, but also unique in our ability to predict those effects and to change our ways in light of what we foresee.

So now, let us take this one moment to appreciate the importance of passage of the

Great Lakes Fish and Wildlife Restoration Act. I would like to thank the many friends who made passage of this bill possible and ask them for the strength to continue the battle in restoring the Great Lakes to the pristine beauty that we can all foresee.

GREAT LAKES FISH AND WILDLIFE RESTORATION ACT OF
2006—BILL SUMMARY

Summary: This bill would reauthorize the Great Lakes Fish and Wildlife Restoration Act, a program first enacted in 1990 and again in 1998. This bill ensures that both fish and wildlife is included throughout the bill and ensures that this Act is consistent with the goals of Great Lakes Regional Collaboration.

Fish & Wildlife Grants: The bill reauthorizes the state and tribal grant program. Under this bill, grants will be used to restore fish and now wildlife in the Great Lakes. The U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service would award grants based on the recommendations of the Great Lakes states and tribes. Grants must be consistent with water quality, fisheries, and wildlife agreements as well as the recommendations of the Great Lakes Regional Collaboration. The grants would be authorized to receive up to \$12 million per year.

Fish & Wildlife Regional Projects: The bill authorizes up to \$6 million each year for the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service to undertake projects that have a regional benefit to fish and wildlife. Under this new authority, the Service would undertake projects based on the recommendations of states and tribes.

Studies and Reports: The Fish & Wildlife Service will submit a report to Congress in 2011 that describe the fish and wildlife grants that have been awarded and the results of those grants.

Under this bill, the Service will provide updated information through a public access website to the states and tribes on what grants have been awarded, priorities proposed for funding in the budget, and actions taken in support of Great Lakes Regional Collaboration.

The bill calls upon the Service to complete the overdue 2002 Report on actions taken under this Act, which was called for under existing law, to be released by June of 2006.

Fishery Resource Offices: Maintains Fish & Wildlife Services Offices, which were authorized in 1990, and the Offices have the same operational duties. The offices are authorized to receive \$2 million per year.

IN HONOR OF CONGRESSWOMAN
STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES FOR 25
YEARS OF PUBLIC SERVICE

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 29, 2006

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor and recognition of my friend and our colleague, the Honorable STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES, for her 25 years of service to the people of Ohio. The residents of the 11th Congressional District, the U.S. House of Representatives, as well as all Americans, are fortunate to have such a tremendously dedicated Representative.

A woman of courage, integrity, and passion, Congresswoman TUBBS JONES is the first African American woman elected to the U.S.

House of Representatives from Ohio, as well as the first to serve on the House Ways and Means Committee. During her tenure, she has led the charge to make quality healthcare and education available for all. Additionally, she has fought tirelessly for working people, having introduced the Predatory Mortgage Lending Practices Reduction Act, the Campus Fire Protection Act, and the courageous "Count Every Vote" Act.

I have been honored to stand with Congresswoman TUBBS JONES in representing Cleveland for the past 8 years. The Congresswoman's dedication to the city is unmatched. She fought tirelessly to help not only save more than 1,000 Cleveland jobs with the Defense Finance and Accounting Service, when it was nearly shut down, but to add an additional 475 jobs. And when proposals were issued to eliminate 700 jobs in Northeast Ohio at the NASA Glenn Research Center, Congresswoman TUBBS JONES helped lead a charge that crossed party lines, and was successful in preserving this critical part of Ohio's economy.

Throughout her public service career, family has always remained her top priority. She was a giving wife to her late husband, Mervyn L. Jones Sr. for 27 years, and is the proud mother of their son, Mervyn L. Jones II. Still, her dedication to public service has not wavered. Congresswoman TUBBS JONES was elected judge of Cleveland's Municipal Court in 1981, and later served on the Court of Common Pleas of Cuyahoga County. From 1994 to 1999, she worked as the Cuyahoga County Prosecutor, before being elected to the U.S. House of Representatives in 1999.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, it is truly an honor to recognize the most distinguished, Honorable STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES for 25 years of public service to the city of Cleveland, Cuyahoga County, and all Americans whom she now serves. Her successes are testaments to hard work and dedication to the people she works so diligently to serve: her constituents. There is no other person I would rather have the privilege of working with in representing Cleveland than STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES, and few that I admire more.

TRIBUTE TO ELIZABETH GHELETA

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 29, 2006

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Elizabeth Gheleta who is retiring after more than three decades of service as Executive Director of the Service League of San Mateo County, California.

Elizabeth Gheleta joined the Service League of San Mateo County in 1968, and in the ensuing 38 years she has worked tirelessly to improve the correctional system and provide opportunities for the incarcerated to create change in their lives. She became Executive Director in 1978, when funding cuts under California's Proposition 13 threatened to close the Service League's doors. Under her leadership, the Service League has grown into a highly respected non-profit organization with strong community ties, 25 permanent staff and over 500 dedicated volunteers. They provide a myriad of services that have helped rebuild

the lives of thousands of County inmates, their children and their families.

Elizabeth Gheleta has been responsible for the development and expansion of in-jail programs to help inmates learn how to function better once they are released, increasing their chances of successful reentry into the community. In addition to religious services, she has helped initiate hundreds of educational and self-improvement programs which focus on transition, substance abuse recovery, personal responsibility, permanent housing and family life skills. Today, Service League employees and volunteers provide more than 800 such programs every year. Under Ms. Gheleta's leadership, the Service League has also developed four residential facilities for former inmates and launched programs to assist the children and families of inmates, especially during the holidays. Ms. Gheleta's vision of improved inmate services has resulted in highly effective programs that are the gold standard for correctional systems nationwide.

Elizabeth Gheleta has earned the highest respect of her colleagues, her community, and every individual and family to whom she has devoted her career. Because of her leadership, tenacity, creativity and belief in others, thousands of former inmates and their families have reintegrated into society and have become responsible and productive members of our community.

Mr. Speaker, it is a special privilege for me to honor my friend Elizabeth Gheleta, her extraordinary career and her extraordinary achievements. I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring her because she has bettered the soul of our community as well as our Nation.

TRIBUTE TO DETECTIVE RORY FORRESTAL

HON. TIMOTHY H. BISHOP

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 29, 2006

Mr. BISHOP of New York. I am proud to rise in recognition of an American patriot and good friend, Detective Rory Forrestal, for his many outstanding contributions to the Suffolk County Police Department on Long Island. On behalf of New York's First Congressional District, I thank Detective Forrestal for his extraordinary service and accomplishments over the past 20 years that have earned him several decorations, the respect and admiration of his fellow officers, and the gratitude of Suffolk County's residents.

A graduate of St Joseph's College, Detective Forrestal has proven his courage and commitment to Long Island's residents time and again. While fighting crime and keeping Long Islanders safe during his tours in the department's narcotics and general services divisions, he compiled an impeccable service record. Many of my constituents may recall when he was one of two Suffolk police officers who helped a woman deliver her baby at her home in Mastic Beach, only a few hours after the hospital misdiagnosed her labor pains and released her.

As a veteran and expert investigator, Detective Forrestal was selected by the department in 1999 to help launch the computer crimes unit when criminal use of the Internet by sexual predators along with other forms of cyber-

fraud and exploitation expanded dramatically. Performing what some might consider a tough and unpleasant job, he has conducted this important job with tenacity, success, and steadfast resolve. His hard work and diligence have directly resulted in several arrests and protected countless children from cyber-predators. I was very grateful when he attended an Internet workshop that I hosted for parents last year.

Among several prestigious decorations, Detective Forrestal has been awarded the Suffolk County Police Department's Detective of the Year for 1998; the Suffolk County Detectives Association Hawkins Award for investigative excellence in 1998; the Parents for Megan Law Champion for Children Award in 2004; and the Department of Justice Prosecutors Award in 2005.

Today, Detective Forrestal is an instructor at the Suffolk County Police Academy and a guest lecturer at schools as well as parent and professional advocacy organizations. His knowledge and expertise, particularly in the area of computer crimes, are always appreciated and well received. His continuing dedication to protecting children from Internet predators is a tremendous comfort to parents in our community and will ensure that our sons and daughters are protected to the maximum extent that our Government can provide.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of New York's First Congressional District, I thank Detective Rory Forrestal for his outstanding service and wish him continued success in the years ahead. He is a shining example of what we look for in our police officers and other public servants, and I am proud to honor and represent him in this chamber.

BROOKLYN CENTER HIGH SCHOOL BAND PLAYS AN AMAZING, GRAMMY-WINNING TUNE

HON. JIM RAMSTAD

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 29, 2006

Mr. RAMSTAD. Mr. Speaker, I come before you today with an uplifting story of a high school band from the Third Congressional District of Minnesota.

Christine Porter, the Director of the Brooklyn Center High School Band, has done amazing things with the band and in the process has touched the lives of numerous young people and their parents. And the entire Brooklyn Center community has rallied around these inspirational students with an uplifting melody of support and encouragement.

The band program was in jeopardy when Chris Porter took over and turned the program around. Now, the band has received high praise from many places—including the Grammys! In fact, they received their Grammy right here in the Nation's Capital at the Grammy Enterprise Signature School Award at the "Grammys on the Hill" event.

I had the great pleasure of meeting Director Porter and one of her talented musicians, Chanel Chatham, who were in Washington for the event.

Mr. Speaker, the Brooklyn Center High School Band program, which serves many students from disadvantaged families, was in disarray and far short of instruments, funding and